

THE

KNOBSTONE



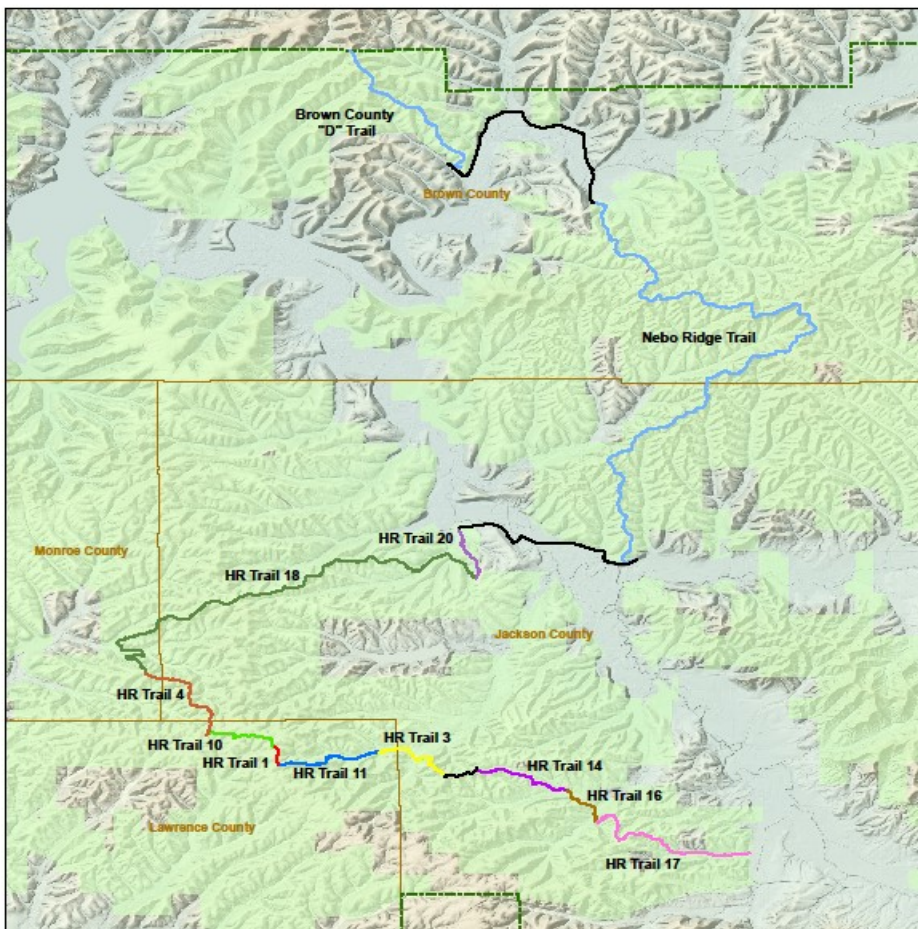
WINTER 2018 NEWSLETTER Vol. 5, No. 1

of the **KNOBSTONE HIKING TRAIL ASSOCIATION**, *founded in 2013*

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HOOSIER NATIONAL FOREST’S MOU ADDS 28 MILES TO INDIANA’S LANDMARK LONG DISTANCE TRAIL [SEE MAP]. A team led by KHTA president Charles Andrew has been working with HNF staff for several years to identify an acceptable route. The route uses a mixture of existing trails Brown County Horse Trail D, and HNF Multiple Use Nebo and Hickory Ridge Trails, with road walk connections between them. **The complex reaches nearly to the 3 miles of KHT Pioneer barn easement trails at the south end near SR 58, and to the 42-mile Tecumseh to the north, for a total string of 74 miles.** Work is ongoing to make arrangements for KHTA members to adopt sections to monitor the trail and help make trail improvements. Travel warning: a few of the numbered trail connections in the Hickory Ridge Trail complex can be confusing, and some need trail surface upgrades. A KHTA crew will be improving the signage a.s.a.p. If you wish to check out the trail right away, just be careful when transitioning.

DNR APPROVES EXTENDING THE TECUMSEH AT THE TT—HNF GAP AT PANTHER BRANCH: the old track/logging road across the creek up to HNF property on the ridge should be improved & signed this year.



Knobstone Hiking Trail Utilizing Hoosier National Forest Trails



Original data compiled from multiple source data and may not meet National Mapping Accuracy Standards. For specific data source information contact the Hoosier National Forest. No warranty is made to the contents or accuracy of the data. January 2018

DEPARTURE FOR THE AT: CHANGES IN KHTA LEADERSHIP

Two very active 2-term KHTA Executive Board members are departing on a long-time cherished dream hike: doing the AT. President Charles Andrew, and former Secretary Nina Andrew (yes, sister of Charles) have both just taken a fairly early retirement to pursue the same dream [photos below, in plaid]. They set out for Georgia March 29. The Andrews expect to get trail support from Charles' son David. They will be making periodic reports from the trail. [Follow on: www.trailjournals.com/Linea's](http://www.trailjournals.com/Linea's)

NEW KHTA BOARD OFFICERS:

Steve Schaftlein (far right) will be taking over as Acting President. Replacing Nina as Secretary is Ryan Franklin (far left), and 2nd Saturday Trail Crew leader replacement Chris Donohue (center).



The KNOBSTONE HIKING TRAIL ASSOCIATION

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DEVELOPMENTS ALONG THE KHT

New South end at Deam Lake SRA: Efforts of 2nd Saturday trail crews have been focused on designing and building a new mile of trail at the bottom of the Knobstone Trail, AND WAS COMPLETED at year's end. The primary objective is providing a safer location for hikers' cars; the new start is inside the SRA property entrance gate, via the Deam Lake Rd. turnoff from SR 60, or Wilson Switch Rd. from I65 at Henryville. Park at the Buzzards Roost shelter lot.



KHTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Joe Payne, Thorntown. DEVELOPMENT,



Progress Report of Adopt-a Trail Program,

Steve Schaftlein, chair.

FALL REPORT

Original Knobstone Trail: Steve Schaftlein reported that all positions are filled for the original Knobstone Trail, including the loop at Delaney Park. Linsey Pine and Dustin Martin **cleaned up a major blown down tree near the Jackson Road trailhead**. Steve is going to contact the Delaney Park manager to gain assistance with maintenance of the loop portion of the Knobstone Trail.

Pioneer Section, SR 135 to SR 58: He has a father and son team interested in the portion of the Pioneer Section South of Kurtz on an ATV area.

WINTER REPORT:

Pioneer Section, SR 135—SR 58: Steve Schaftlein reported that the father and son team has accepted the portion of the Pioneer Section South of Kurtz on an ATV — Pioneer Barn area. The whole route was cleared over a couple of weekends February-March.

Meeting Attendance – Sid Pendency, Bill Hurley, Todd Stewart, Johnathan Spaulding, Dustin Martin



NEW KHTA BOARD MEMBERS [Randall Pflueger, left] My

interest in joining the KHTA Board began with recognizing that completion and maintenance of the Knobstone Trail provides a unique resource for hikes originating from Maumee Scout Reservation. Being associated with Hoosier Trails Council and Maumee Scout Reservation, and having working relationships with IU GIS specialists and familiarity with trail systems of the Deam Wilderness, Hoosier National Forest, and Elkinsville vicinity, I can work with other Board members and contribute in overcoming obstacles to completion of the Knobstone. My interest in joining the KHTA Board began with recognizing that completion and maintenance of the Knobstone Trail provides a unique resource for hikes originating from Maumee Scout Reservation. Being associated with Hoosier Trails Council and Maumee Scout Reservation, I can work with other Board members and contribute in overcoming obstacles to completion of the Knobstone Trail. My interest in hiking in Indiana began when my son was a Scout in Hoosier Trails Council of the BSA. I worked with experts at Indiana University (Bloomington) to produce high-resolution Lidar topographical maps covering Maumee Scout Reservation (MSR), parts of the Hoosier National Forest adjacent to MSR, the Deam Wilderness, and Ransburg Scout Reservation. These maps are presently used by Scouts at the MSR. Prior to moving to Indiana I lived and worked in several eastern states, and enjoyed hiking in each, including trails in White Mountains National Forest in New Hampshire. **Ron Conrad** (far left), is an IT specialist, and **Ryan Franklin**, [left] is taking on the thankless task of Board Secretary from Nina Andrew.



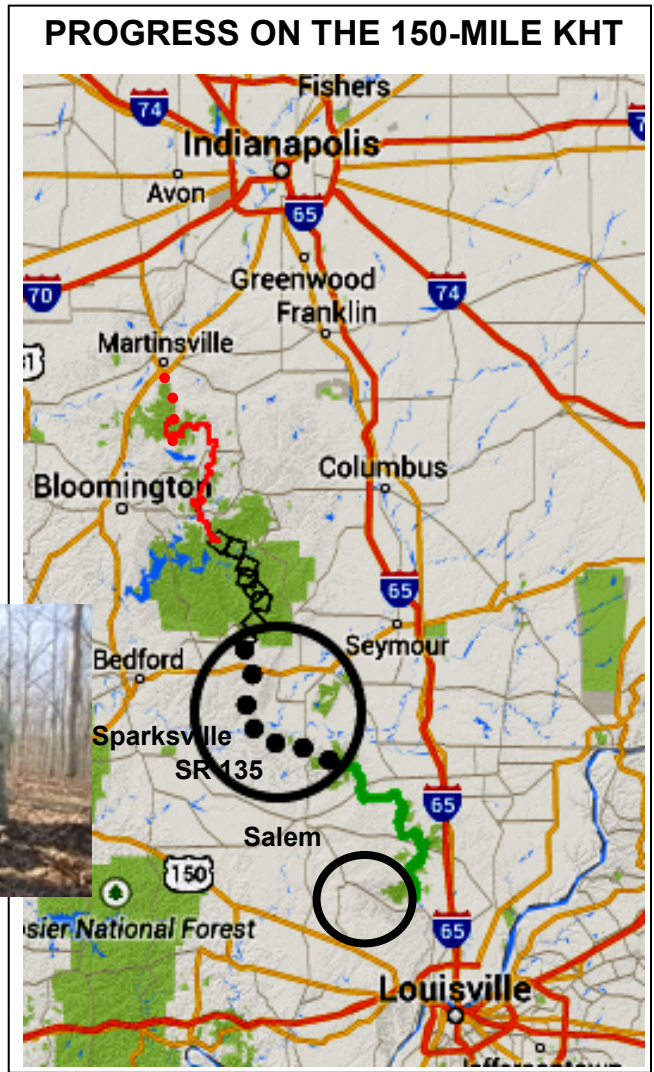
TRAIL BUILDING VOLUNTEER HOURS CLOCK June-December 2017: Volunteers 110, Hours 824, including the Medora H.S students. Projects included finishing the new Deam Lake KT Trailhead; Sparksville Trailside Park; new Northern KHT Trailhead in Martinsville. To date, since 2013: Volunteers, 441, Hours, 1728. Labor value: \$39,848 at \$23.06, the latest government estimate.

NEW 2017 KHTA MEMBERS June-December: Tim Sherrill, Noblesville; Scott Daugherty, Zionsville; Robert Merriman, Paul Dilts, Janet Schneider, Indianapolis; John & Zach Okeli, Merom; Randy Palumbo, NYC, NY; Mark Rogers, Spencer; Joe Wehrheim, New Palestine; Barbara Williams-Ragio, Martinsville; Dale & Phil Zabel, Brian Besser, David King, Bloomington; **NEW in 2018 through March:** Albert Cross, Springville; Darin Long, Bargersville; Tim Calahan, Robert Curran, Avon; Jean Balaguras, Bloomington.



2nd SATURDAY TRAIL CREW WORK REPORTS

New recruit Jed and Suzanne at Deam: "And just how are we supposed to get the trail down there?????" And the gang at the new trailhead in Martinsville at the J. Jones parking lot



KEY: red dots=provisional KHT extension M-MSF to Martinsville; red line = Tecumseh Trail; black chain=provisional Hoosier National Forest; black dots, circle=Pioneer Trail easements; red circle=J-WSF provisional Muscatatuck Bluffs & Chestnut Ridge; green line= original Knobstone Trail. Large circle: Medora H.S. Sparksville work project. Small circle: New Southern Knobstone Trailhead at Deam Lake.

* * * I WANT TO HELP BUILD THE KHT * * *

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS: New Renew

- Student/Elder \$15
- Business \$100
- Milestone \$1000
- Individual \$30
- Legacy \$100
- Other: \$ _____
- Family \$40
- Benchmark \$250
- Org./Club \$50
- Landmark \$500

I'd also like to make a donation to the KHT LAND & EASEMENT FUND: \$ _____

Enclosed is my contribution of: \$ _____

New Members receive a complimentary copy of the KHTA's Knobstone Hiking Trail Guide.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City _____

State _____ **Zip** _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Make checks payable to: KHTA, Inc. Fund Mail to: The KHTA, P.O. Box 1814, Martinsville, IN 46151
OR GO ONLINE TO THE KHTA WEBSITE, AND JOIN with PAYPAL: www.KnobstoneHikingTrail.org





THE KHTA'S FIRST GATEWAY 5K-FUN RUN in Martinsville's Jimmy Nash Park went off without a hitch on March 3, 2018 as advertised. Proceeds more than paid the bills, but if stolen would probably only afford one night at a posh hotel in downtown Indianapolis. The runners came as far away as from Orleans and Henryville. All 25 of them had a lot of fun and admired the surprisingly interesting, hilly trail.

The race route was substituted for a proposed Marathon at this date in the statewide trail running calendar, beginning at the Jones Parking Lot and the proposed eventual northern trailhead for the Tecumseh/160 Mile Knobstone Hiking Trail. It's useful to get the race into the calendar while the date was still available. Something to look forward to when permission for the official DNR trail route is granted to extend the Tecumseh to the edge of Martinsville at Burton Lane. Because of I69 construction and new exit limitations, access to Morgan-Monroe State Forest and its trails is getting difficult. A trailhead here may prove valuable in future.



KHTA Race crew day before race route checkers photo (left). First finishers shown with KHTA race director Suzanne Mittenthal presenting KHTA t-shirt awards: Jonathan Calhoun, 30:57, of Bedford; Christine Paul, 32:55, Bloomington.



SPRING/SUMMER EVENTS CALENDAR: DETAILS INSIDE OR ON:



APRIL 14, MAY 12, JUNE 9, JULY 14, AUGUST 11, SEPT. 8 on KHT TRAIL BUILDING 2ND **Saturdays**. Work will be all over the map. Some at the edge of Martinsville, some work high up on the ridge above Sparksville Park in Southern Jackson County. Very soon there will be work upgrading a new section of the KHT in the Hoosier National Forest, just below Monroe Reservoir, near the Pioneer barn on the Pioneer section of the KHT. The KHTA is working on an agreement to maintain trails in the Hickory Ridge Trail complex in between Norman and Kurtz north of SR 58. Details on MeetUp! Want to help work on a project on the KT? The KT Adopters gang may need some reinforcements soon—contact Steve [see Board list].



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The **COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**
of Jackson County
Together, we grow tomorrows

